

## GOVERNOR FOLK'S RECORD AND WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU

Missourians Are Exceedingly Fortunate in Having Him as Candidate for the United States Senate

Mosby's "Missouri Message" Gives Review of His Most Excellent Public Record

The people of Missouri—those of them who are not in the service of their country—will go to the polls November 5 and select a representative in the United States Senate on his record of public service.

They are peculiarly fortunate now in having a candidate for Senator whose past record of achievements stands as a positive guarantee of future service to the people. We refer to former Gov. Joseph W. Folk.

Mr. Folk served the public as Circuit Attorney of St. Louis for four years and one term as Governor. (What was his record? Was it good or bad? What did he do, if anything, that was for the benefit of the people? Let the record answer.)

Soon after he became Circuit Attorney of St. Louis he discovered that public service corporations, and other corporations, were resorting to bribery to obtain franchises and other privileges from municipal assemblies of St. Louis, and later on in his investigations he revealed that the same process was used in procuring legislation at Jefferson City.

Mr. Folk instituted a vigorous prosecution of the bribe-givers and the bribe-takers. In the face of bitter political and official opposition he sent nearly a score of corruptionists to the penitentiary. He pursued his investigations with such bulldog tenacity, such courage and such skill that political conditions so corrupt and debasing and yet so common as to be regarded as "conventional," were shown up in all their ugliness—in all their mischievous effects upon the general public.

In his fight to send the hoodlums to the penitentiary he had to meet in the courtroom the greatest lawyers that the state had produced, and he had to make his cases so fire-proof that higher courts could find no technicalities upon which to reverse them. In the face of an opposition that would have discouraged a man with less determination, he pushed his prosecutions to a successful conclusion, and even caused treaties to be enacted with foreign countries which enabled him to reach into those countries and bring back for trial those who had fled from the United States to escape prosecution.

His great fight for civic righteousness made him famous throughout the country, and without much opposition he was elected Governor of Missouri in 1904. As Governor he cleaned up the state as, during his term as Circuit Attorney, he had cleaned up St. Louis.

In the cities, especially, such a thing as honest elections was almost unknown. By causing the enactment of new election laws and the appointment of high-class, efficient election boards, he re-established honest elections, thus assuring every citizen the right to go to the polls and cast his vote, under the full protection of the law, with the guarantee that his ballot would be counted and recorded as he had cast it. Those who are not familiar with conditions that existed before Mr. Folk did this piece of great constructive work can hardly appreciate how valuable a service Gov. Folk rendered to the people of this state by that one act alone.

Such a state of demoralization existed that repeaters would go to the polls and vote the names of citizens, and the citizens, when they went to vote, would be stopped by goons, and even jailed by police on charges of attempted illegal voting. The registration books were padded with thousands of fictitious names, which were voted by professional repeaters, operating under the protection of the police department.

Race track gambling, with its demoralizing influences on the public, especially young men, had flourished for years in opposition to the law. Mr. Folk suppressed violation of the law, and the race track gamblers, finding it impossible to operate something as a law recommended by him as Governor, closed up their business.

The laws respecting the control of the liquor business were practically a dead letter. He attempted to put them in force. Mr. Folk arrested the liquor traffickers. He drove the traffickers out of business, and he caused the enforcement of the law to be made effective. He caused the enforcement of the law to be made effective. He caused the enforcement of the law to be made effective.

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powerful factors in elections when they are in league with those who are seeking to corrupt the ballot box.

Many laws of a constructive character were enacted during Mr. Folk's term as Governor. When he was ready to turn his office over to his successor it might be said that Missouri had been officially regenerated. Every Governor who has succeeded Mr. Folk has pursued his policy of law enforcement, which is a tribute to the soundness of the principles he established.

But we do not regard Mr. Folk's achievements as Circuit Attorney and as Governor as his greatest and most useful service to the public.

It was his work of revolutionizing—recreating—the political thought of this country with respect to official life and official duty that, so far, will stand as his most remarkable achievement.

When Mr. Folk entered public life 18 years ago—a young man—there was little or no demand for honest government. It was regarded as a matter of course that public officials were too frequently corrupt, or winked at corruption, and that laws were placed upon the statute books as mere ornaments, not to be enforced. Great corporations, wanting privileges advantageous to themselves and disadvantageous to the people, knew that they would have to pay the price and paid it.

But Mr. Folk put an end to this sort of thing, not only in Missouri but throughout the nation. His successful campaign against crookedness electrified the nation. City after city and state after state were renovated as Missouri had been renovated, and their political life was reconstructed on the line of the "Missouri Idea," which Mr. Folk had made a living issue throughout the United States.

Mr. Folk popularized good government. He blazed the good government trail through a wilderness of corrupting influences and the country followed him. Good government has become today the slogan of every man in every state and every county who seeks office. Nobody thought of running on a good government platform at the time Mr. Folk entered public life. Nobody would dare run on any other platform today.

What does good government mean to you, Mr. Voter? What does it mean to every citizen of Missouri?

Simply this. That when the citizen goes to the polls to vote he knows that his ballot will truly register his sentiments with respect to candidates and government policies, and that its effect will not be overcome by somebody, perhaps 100 or 1,000 miles away, voting fraudulently; that legislators are passing laws, on their merits, for the benefit of the people, and not granting special privileges to corporations because their votes have been bought and paid for; that every dollar of money levied for purposes of taxation is being honestly and efficiently expended for public service; that the government, in all its numerous branches, is responsive to the will of the people and is not secretly controlled by corrupt influences.

These benefits to the people have come through Mr. Folk's work. A man who has done such splendid work in the public service unquestionably would render great service to the country and the administration in this great crisis in handling the tremendous problems growing out of the war, and in its successful prosecution.

A vote for Mr. Folk for Senator is a vote for a man who has proven 100 per cent efficient in every job he has undertaken for the people.

### PRaises Folk Highly

In another column on this page an editorial article from the Washington Star is reproduced that pays a deserved compliment to Hon. Joseph W. Folk, whom the Democratic party in Missouri has nominated for United States Senator. The Star is not a Democratic newspaper, and for that reason the praise of Mr. Folk is the more to be welcomed.

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## WILSON WANTS FOLK

President Says: "I Am Looking Forward With Genuine Satisfaction to Our Future Association."



The deep interest of President Wilson in the election of former Governor Folk to the United States Senate is shown in the following telegram:

WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, October 3, 1918.—Honorable Joseph W. Folk, St. Louis, Mo.—Your telegram of yesterday is warmly appreciated. Your support has always been so consistent and generous that I have been sure in any case that I might count on you. I am looking forward with genuine satisfaction to our future association.

WOODROW WILSON.

"December 12, 1917.

My Dear Governor Folk:

Thank you very much for your memorandum about the administration of the railways. It helps my thought materially.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

WOODROW WILSON.

Hon. Joseph W. Folk, Interstate Commerce Commission.

"November 19, 1912.

My Dear Governor Folk:

Thank you warmly for your letter of November 9th, which has given me a great deal of pleasure. I think you know how much gratified I have been by your constant and generous confidence and support.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

WOODROW WILSON.

Hon. Joseph W. Folk, St. Louis, Missouri."

As Counsellor for the State Department and Chief Counsel for the Interstate Commerce Commission, President Wilson and Governor Folk were frequently in conference and Governor Folk is known by all to be in hearty accord and sympathy with President Wilson's aims and ideas.

Do not hamper President Wilson by sending untried and unknown men to the United States Senate. The world is on fire and only men of known and proven ability should be selected at this time.



### MISSOURI'S OPPORTUNITY AND DUTY.

The people of Missouri have reasons to rejoice over the opportunity to place in the United States Senate a man of the character and ability of Gov. Joseph W. Folk. While he is the nominee of the Democratic party, he will be elected by the votes of those who believe in the principles which he advocates and who believe in the leadership of Mr. Wilson at this critical time of our national government. It was a great day not only for the state Democracy, but for the nation as well, when he was nominated for this high position.—Richmond Conservator.

### MISSOURI VOTERS MUST ELECT FOLK

Congressman Scott Ferris of Oklahoma, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Committee, strongly urges the election of Gov. Folk to the Senate. He says: "Folk's nomination means much to the party in the nation, as well as Missouri, and his election is regarded as of paramount importance in administration circles. The Democracy and citizens of Missouri of all parties will rally to his support in grand style, and Missouri will send him to the Senate by a large majority." Mr. Ferris was reared at Neosho, Mo.

### Some Laws for Which Missouri is Indebted to Joseph W. Folk When He Was Governor

- ANTI-LOBBY ACT.
- INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM.
- MAXIMUM FREIGHT RATE.
- 2-CENT A MILE PASSENGER RATE.
- DIRECT PRIMARY. (Applying to All State Offices.)
- PURE FOOD (In Conformity with National Law.)
- ANTI-BUCKET SHOP.
- ANTI-RACE TRACK GAMBLING.
- CHILD LABOR.
- COMPULSORY EDUCATION.
- ANTI-TRUST. (Providing Prison Punishment for Violations.)
- GOOD ROADS. (With Appropriations, Making Same Effective.)
- ANTI-DISCRIMINATION.
- STATE BANKING DEPARTMENT.
- UNIFORM TEXT-BOOKS.
- INCREASING POWERS OF RAILROAD AND WAREHOUSE COMMISSION.
- PUBLIC UTILITIES. (Regulating Rates Charged by These Corporations.)
- CORRUPT PRACTICES. (Whereby Any Official May Be Removed for Dereliction of Duty by Proceedings in any Civil Court.)
- EXTENSION OF FELLOW-SERVANT ACT.
- EXTENSION OF JURISDICTION OF STATE FACTORY INSPECTOR, BY GIVING HIM STATE-WIDE POWERS IN RESPECT TO CHILD LABOR STATUTE.
- ABOLISHMENT OF FEE SYSTEM.
- MODERN SYSTEM OF TAXATION.
- ABOLISHMENT OF PRACTICE OF LEGISLATORS AND STATE OFFICIALS RIDING ON PASSES.
- PAROLE PLAN FOR ALL FIRST OFFENDERS.
- DAMAGE ACT—LAW GIVING RIGHT OF ACTION FOR DEATH BY NEGLIGENCE OF ADULT UNMARRIED PERSONS.

## SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT WILSON NOW URGED BY LESLIE'S WEEKLY

Norman Hapgood in Noted Republican Weekly Says "Never in History Is United Front So Important."

Efficiency Considered Nothing Could Be More Stupid Than Dividing Our National Strength in House and Senate

### FOLK WILL WIN ON RECORD OF SERVICE

Pineville Democrat Says People Know What He Will Do by What He Has Done.

The pleasure expressed by some Republicans that certain elements in St. Louis are opposing the election of Gov. Joseph W. Folk to the United States Senate is not at all surprising, but we venture to hazard a guess that when the election returns are all in the smile will be on the other side of their faces, when the votes of the good people of St. Louis are counted, as it has always been shown that they are largely in the majority.

We had just as well realize now as well as any other time that Gov. Folk will lose the votes of certain people in the city of St. Louis, and we can name them by classes: Disgruntled saloon keepers who are sore because of his rigid law-enforcement policy when Governor; winerom operators who sold liquor which was used to debauch and ruin young women and girls; racetrack gamblers who grew fat on money won from the young men of St. Louis and the state, and bribe-givers and bribe-takers.

This same class of men fought Folk in 1904, when he was elected Governor of the state and ran 55,000 votes ahead of Judge Parker, Democratic candidate for President. Not only did he break all records in the state for running ahead of the ticket, but he carried the city of St. Louis by 10,000, a thing which had never been done in years before and has not been done since.

We do not mean to leave the impression that ALL supporters of Judge Spencer, Republican nominee, are law-breakers, gamblers, hoodlums or their friends, but WE DO MAINTAIN THAT EVERY PERSON OF THE TYPES NAMED IS SUPPORTING HIM and that when this is known to the people of the state RIGHT THINKING AND ACTING PEOPLE, regardless of party, will support Folk for United States Senator because of his great constructive public record. The voters of all political parties should support him in November.—Pineville Democrat.

### MEANS WILSON APPROVAL

Mexico Ledger Says All Should Pull Together for Election of Gov. Folk.

The election of Joseph W. Folk of Missouri to the United States Senate will be an unqualified expression of the people of Missouri in approval of Woodrow Wilson's administration. Mr. Folk's election seems certain. But the greater his majority at the polls in November the stronger our expression of faith and confidence in the President's work in the present crisis. This is no time to open old sores or to exume petty personalities. The first consideration today is the winning of the war, and that is what Mr. Folk has foremost in mind. In the past those who failed to agree with Mr. Folk were entitled to their opinion, but under present conditions, in a time when all former considerations are microscopic and overshadowed by the great objective of our government today, these matters should be forgotten and the business in hand be given undivided attention. Let's keep pulling to win the war and have as Missouri's wheel-horse Joseph W. Folk, whose interests are the same as the President's and who will support our chief executive with no other view in mind than an ultimate victory of right over the would-be world oppressor.—Mexico Ledger.

### NO WILSON OPPOSITION.

Victor Murdock, the well-known Progressive leader and former member of Congress is well pleased with the Americanism of Gov. Folk, as will be shown by the following clipping from the Wichita Eagle, his newspaper: "One thing is certain; there will be no presidential letter opposing Joseph W. Folk of Missouri."

The ticket offered Missouri voters by the Democratic party is composed of men of tried and proven ability. Why take chances with men of unproven ability.

Leslie's Weekly, known for many years as the most partisan Republican weekly published in America, has come out editorially for the election of a Democratic Congress, that President Wilson may be certain of no undivided support at this critical time in the history of the world.

The editorial, which was written by Norman Hapgood, was like a bomb shell in the ranks of Republican politicians but was well received by the voters of the country generally. The editorial follows in full:

"Most people are incapable of thought, except in rigid grooves. To them the change through which the nations of the earth are passing means nothing greater than a fight with Germany. It is a bitter enlargement of a football game or duel. In domestic politics they think as the party button is pressed. One man or woman, however, out of ten may be capable of reflection, and the more or less independent voters may well decide next month's election. What is the central question? It is the extent to which you wish America to count in the diplomacy of the war and the rearrangements after the war. If the partisan opposition to the President is increased in the House and Senate, our power abroad will be vastly weakened. If the Senate, the treaty-making power, should be captured against the President he would be almost helpless. Happily, he has been able to kill off some of the most determined enemies in his own party, like Vardaman and Hardwicke. If he holds his own against his adversaries in November the United States will have more to say about the future than any other country.

"I have no interest in the Democrats as such. Looking ahead 20 years, I say the Republicans have as much probability of creative work as the Democrats. But Woodrow Wilson happens to be President, and I do say that, regardless of party altogether, but merely considering efficiency, nothing could be more stupid than to divide our national strength by turning over the House, or, still worse, the Senate, to men under a constant party temptation to prevent the President from doing his best for the country and the world. Never since the Civil War, perhaps never in history, was it so important to present a united front at Washington. Whether or not the war is fought in vain, leaving the world far more wretched than before, depends largely on the degree of influence exercised by the United States on the other belligerents, both on our enemies and on the Entente. Create at Washington a situation where the House and Senate will be seeking issues against the President, feeling in duty bound to take the opposite view of the settlement from any he may take, and you hand the future of the world over to the other belligerents. Put behind Mr. Wilson a Congress eager to support his policies and you make him the guide out of the wilderness. You give to the United States the most powerful ruler in the world. You make of the future an American future; a disinterested, constructive future. You do your best to assure continued peace and a brighter world, as payment for ruined futures and wrecked homes."

Judge Waller W. Graves has demonstrated his ability as Supreme Judge and no chance is taken in re-electing him.

### MISSOURI HONORS HERSELF IN NOMINATION OF GOV. FOLK, SAYS TULSA (OK.) DEMOCRAT

One of the most inspiring signs of the times is the nomination of Joseph W. Folk to succeed the late William J. Stone as United States Senator from Missouri. After his election next fall Missouri will have in the Senate a man not unworthy to be compared with the illustrious Thomas H. Benton, one of that state's first Senators and a statesman whose vision always illuminated pathways ahead of his time.

Missouri has done herself a high honor in nominating Mr. Folk for the senatorship. No other man lives within the limits of the state who has won such golden estimates of opinion as to personal integrity and political ideals throughout the nation. Joseph W. Folk is a national character already and has been so for more than a dozen years, though he is still in his prime, and men like him are needed in the United States Senate. Many years of useful service may be expected of him.—Tulsa (Ok.) Democrat.